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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not yet assigned
First Named Inventor : Norbert ERHARD
Filed : March 24, 2005
TC/A.U. : N/A
Examiner : N/A
Docket No. : 028972.56011US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : Protective Gas Device for Pressure Die-Casting
Machines

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The references were cited in the attached International Search Report.

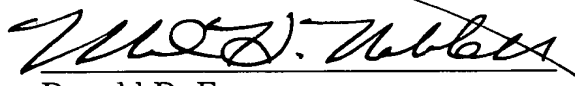
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application.

Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 028972.56011US.

Respectfully submitted,

March 24, 2005



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	Not yet assigned 10/529080
		Filing Date	March 24, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Norbert ERHARD
		Art Unit	N/A
Sheet 1 of 1	Examiner Name	N/A	
	Attorney Docket Number	028972.56011US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	AA	US-5,205 346 A		4/27/93	Kuhn John W et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i>					
	AB	WO 99 02287 A		1/21/99	Gjestland Haavard T; Reistad Thomas Bergem		
	AC	JP 06 328227 A		11/29/94	Sintokogio Ltd.		Abs.
	AD	JP 57 177871 A		11/01/82	Tomoya Noguchi		Abs.
	AE	DE 736 766 C		6/28/43	Erich Herrmann & Co et al.		
	AF	JP 03 258448 A		11/18/91	Toshiba Mach Co. Ltd.		Abs.
	AG	FR 2 809 643 A		12/7/01	Brochot SA		Abs.
		International Search Report		12/4/2003			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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